SAFETY BULLETIN B364

Stay Safe

UK Power Networks
Delivering your electricity

Issue 01

AWARENESS WHEN ENTERING UKPN SUBSTATIONS

OVERVIEW

This bulletin raises awareness of the risks when entering substations where earthing may have been stolen, theft may be in progress or where there is evidence of third-party unauthorised entry.

DETAIL

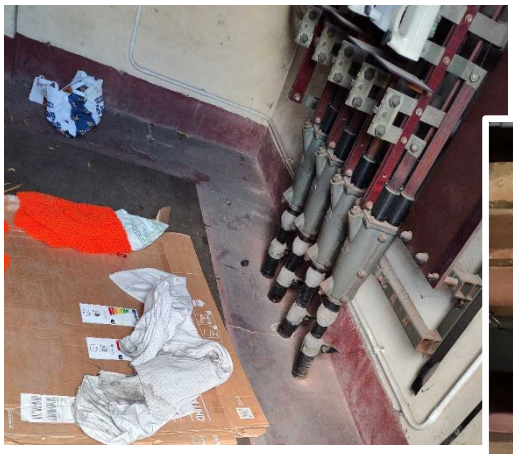
There has recently been a rise in unauthorised entry into UK Power Networks substations and theft of, or interference with, substation earthing. This presents a significant risk to employees, contractors and the public. It threatens security of supply and the safety of customers.

Signs of tampering with earthing systems include:

- Missing/loose trench covers.
- Reports of unauthorised access from members of the public, particularly at substations with a history of theft.
- Missing earth conductors or tapes to plant, apparatus and structures.
- Incorrectly connected conductors i.e. sheath earth not connected to 11kV switchgear.
- Disturbed/open ground where conductors have been pulled out.
- Damaged/missing fences etc.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- Check for any signs that the substation earthing has been interfered with (refer to EOS 09-0067 Theft of Substation Earthing - Emergency Response).
- Call Flashcall if there is someone in the substation who is doing something that could lead to death or cause significant danger to others.
- If appropriate, try to mitigate the situation but do not put yourself in danger by doing so. If appropriate, leave the substation and call the Police.
- For further guidance see HSS 40 046 Substation Access and Entry.







Primary communication via Line Manager complete by (X)	**x**	1 week		2 weeks		1 month
Additional communication (X)		Learning points	**x**	1st 15		Team Brief slide

Line management must ensure appropriate employees understand the content of this document within the timescale shown. This document is subject to compliance audits after the communication deadline.